

Criminal Justice Team
Lancaster County - Substance Abuse Action Team
10:00 a.m. 555 S. 9th St.
August 19 2003

Present were: Kim Etherton, Steve Rowoldt, Otto Schultz, Toni Arntzen, Priscella Guerra, Julie Hippen, Terry Weber, and Mac Warren.

Next Meeting: September 9, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. 555 S. 9th St.

Welcome to Mac Warren who joins the team as a community partner.

Gus Hitz sent regrets and plans to join us soon.

STEVE'S NOTES VERSION OF LB46

Nebraska was the 46th State to ratify the interstate compact re: the movement of probationers and parolees. Presentence investigations cannot be ordered for certain types of minor cases now.

The revocation process is more sophisticated. Prior to this change, the PO could either revoke or not. Some jurisdictions would revoke on 1 dirty UA (e.g.) while another might not revoke until there were 9. Now, if it's not a criminal offense or it is a substance abuse violation, the officer may do an administrative sanction. Administrative sanction gives a variety of options for the officer now. They have an Administrative Sanctions Matrix that shows the factors involved in deciding how to handle a violation. If the offender disagrees with the sanction, she/he will go back to court.

Everyone now has to pay a \$30 fee (no waiver) plus a monthly fee of \$25 for regular supervision to \$35 for Intensive Supervision. The judge can waive these fees. The funds go to the Crime Commission and come back to the County. This county would have had \$375-400 K in 2002 if there had been a 50% collection rate. Money can be used for academics, vocational training, getting a job, getting mental health and substance abuse treatment. It can also be used for programming for specialized groups (e.g. sex offenders). They will begin training on the matrix for violations in September.

KIM' NOTES VERSION OF COMMUNITY SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES

Positions will be opening Sunday. The phone reminder program for people who fail to appear could be up and running in a couple of weeks. Drug court people (phase IV) may be available as volunteers for their community service.

The first sentencing alternative will be community service instead of sitting out fines. Judge Flowers permits no one to sit out fines. They hope to get \$60 a day for community service as they do for jail. The initial goal is to assist with the overcrowding of the jail. About 10-11% are sitting out fines. People who fail to appear are another large group. About 400 people are in jail (270 downtown + 130 at work release). Currently, the jail is overcrowded by about 40 people.

Kim will eventually be contracting with treatment agencies or mental health agencies or in some other way work with them. Community Sentencing Alternatives programs would be much more short term than probation.

SIMPLE SCREENING INSTRUMENT (SSI)

The theory is to put SSI into that system so that people with substance problems are identified and evaluated as early in the process as possible. The SSI will be put into the probation database. There are concerns about people's privacy if it is done as a part of the processing into the jail. There will be firewalls around the information from it, though it is not covered under HIPPA. The big problem is who will have access to the info.

We also want to gather some data about the numbers of people who meet the standards. The cutting score is 4 and the score is the only piece that gets forwarded.

We need a flow chart about where this information goes.

STANDARDIZED MODEL FOR EVALUATION

Treatment providers are learning to do the ASI and CASI. But, they also need to have 12 hours of criminogenic training. Unfortunately, there are no more criminogenic training programs. Julie was referred to Barb Thomas at Health and Human Services to learn more about what to do with this dilemma.

NEXT MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2003 AT 10:00 A.M. 555 S. 9TH ST.

Next meeting we will discuss the need for a women's half-way house, the mission of the this team and who else should be at the table here.